

## DETECTIVES COMB CITY AND COUNTRY FOR MRS. RANKINE

Twelve Conduct House to  
House Search on East Side,  
Where She Disappeared.

EVERY EFFORT FUTILE

Brother Engages Former  
Bodyguard of Roosevelt,  
Who Advises Publicity.

CHAUFFEUR IS EXAMINED

Confidence Placed in His Story  
—Family Believe She May  
Be Aphasia Victim.

Mrs. A. K. Rankine



The strange disappearance of Mrs. Annette Klugley Rankine directly after she had stepped from her landaulet last Friday afternoon in one of the most frequented sections of Manhattan remains unsolved.

Scores of detectives and policemen have sifted every possible theory to account for her protracted absence. These range from the extreme contingency of suicide to what the woman's family think the more plausible supposition, that in a state of temporary mental derangement or perhaps aphasia she may have suffered a loss of identity and wandered away aimlessly. Every effort to trace her from the moment she dismissed her chauffeur at the approach to the Queensboro Bridge, Second avenue and Fifty-ninth street, has been futile.

The police yesterday followed up half a dozen cases of women who were supposed to answer the incomplete descriptions of the missing widow thus far made public. These trails led in several instances to Long Island. One of these false alarms was caused by a woman who was observed wandering about and then seated on the grass beside the Colonial Road, near Fourth avenue and Seventy-third street, Brooklyn. When found she gave a straight account of herself.

### Expert Advice Obtained.

Feeling the need of expert advice and guidance Benjamin Vernon Norton, Mrs. Rankine's brother and next of kin, has retained the services of J. M. Nye, who for years was one of the most accomplished operatives in the Secret Service and was a Presidential bodyguard when Roosevelt and Taft occupied the White House. Mr. Nye now is employed as an executive assistant by the Guaranty Trust Company, in which corporation Mr. Norton holds an assistant secretaryship.

In a case like this, the former Secret Service expert said, he believes the best possible asset is unrestricted publicity. He regretted that Mrs. Rankine's relatives had not earlier taken the newspapers more completely into their confidence, because, as he advised them Saturday, full and frank publicity was the course most likely to locate her quickly.

Mr. Nye yesterday morning interrogated not only the chauffeur, Frank Clouting of 417 East Sixty-fourth street, but also Mr. Norton and his brother-in-law, William T. Mullaly, who conducts an advertising agency at 198 Broadway. He reached the conclusion, already confidently asserted by the family and accepted apparently by the city detectives and police, that the chauffeur, who had been in Mrs. Rankine's employ more than two years, is absolutely reliable, truthful and trustworthy.

### More Detailed Description.

As a result of his interrogation Mr. Nye formulated and sent broadcast a more detailed description of the missing woman. This is how it is phrased: "Mrs. Annette Rankine age 40; 5 feet 1 or 2 inches; slender build; weight about 110 pounds; medium brown hair combed straight back, ears entirely uncovered; blue eyes; wears oblong shaped plain, flat nose glasses with old fashioned high round collars; ruddy complexion fairly well tanned from tanning in the weather a great deal; due of her face slightly fuzzy.

"Wore a black and white waist with high collar close up around the neck and black, mannish four in hand tie, a black

coat of rough material, fairly loose, and in length half way between the hip and knee, black skirt of the same material came to just below foot tops, high black walking shoes with medium size heel. Had a dark brown 'Priser' fur about eight inches wide, with all four feet, head and tail and small piece of fur of the same colored material, upon which there was a clasp.

"On the third finger of left hand she wore a plain band wedding ring, a ring with ruby and two diamonds and another ring with two sapphires and one diamond; all rings gold; wore an open face watch with greenish blue enamel back hung around the neck with black silk band; wore a man's dark gray cloth crushed hat with Knox label; carried a black, dull finished handbag about eight inches long with metal clasp and top."

### Widow Liked Mannish Hats.

A Knox hat which is the exact duplicate of the one worn by Mrs. Rankine was bought yesterday by Mr. Nye. He expects to have it photographed in connection with a photographic portrait for circulation in connection with the woman's description. The widow's tastes in dress were almost severely plain, though her gowns and other clothing were always of the best material and workmanship. Mannish hats and ties she is said to have affected because she found them comfortable. When she had a summer home in New Canaan, Conn., she used to wear much of the time knockabout costumes and outing skirts not unlike those used by the Campfire Girls.

Since last Friday evening Mr. Norton has devoted his entire time to the search for his sister. He had luncheon yesterday in the Yale Club, and after his conference with Mr. Nye and Mr. Mullaly, the chauffeur, Clouting, drove him to his home on the Wynewood road, Pelham Manor, where he sought a much needed rest. When he was seen in the Yale Club, Mr. Norton said:

"I have no particular theory of what may have happened to my sister, except that she may have had one of the sinking spells in which she was subject and may have been taken away by some person to some private hospital or some home. But all hospitals, rooming houses and hotels that we know of have been searched. Also, because of the possibility that my sister may have become ill on the other side of the river after having walked across the bridge, hotels and homes on the Queens River side have been examined for a distance of twelve miles."

### Dismisses Suicide Theory.

Though Mr. Norton discounts the idea of suicide, an examination of the bridge, he said, made it seem impossible that such an intention had she entertained it could have been carried out. "Because of the ramp which runs the length of the bridge," said he, "it would require a man of strength to throw himself over the river. And my sister is small, frail and by no means strong."

Mr. Norton and Mr. Mullaly agreed that Mrs. Rankine's financial affairs were in perfect condition and that she had no property troubles, no pending litigation or other such annoyances. When asked whether she had made a will disposing of the fortune left to her by her husband, Mr. Mullaly said he did not know, but he assumed that she had. It was a severe nervous shock to her when, in 1905, her husband died of pneumonia only a short time after their wedding, while they were yet on their honeymoon and were at Franconia, in

the White Mountains. From that time she began to suffer sinking and fainting spells.

So far as concerned any social life, she became practically a recluse, entertaining rarely in her home, 14 West Sixtieth street, and seldom going out to the theatre or elsewhere. Her meals were served habitually in her apartments on the eighth floor. She was a church woman, an Episcopalian, and, though her life had been so saddened, she sought useful occupation by taking up the task of doing the statistical work of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, which has working rooms at 103 East Twenty-third street. Thither her chauffeurs drove her every morning and called to take her home in the afternoon.

### Her Work Entirely Clerical.

Mrs. Helene Ingram, superintendent of the association, said: "In the four years she had worked here with us she was always at her desk at 9 o'clock and seldom left before 5." She did none of the outdoor relief or charity work of the organization, though she habitually placed her motor car as well as her purse at its service. Her own particular tasks were wholly of a clerical nature which did not call her to go outside the office.

The shattered condition of Mrs. Rankine's nervous system was accentuated by the death of her mother, Mrs. Edward Kingsley Norton, which occurred last December in her home, 44 West Tenth street. Mother and daughter had been well nigh inseparable for a long time; they had lived together, they frequently travelled together, and since Mrs. Rankine's widowhood their affectionate relation had been markedly close.

This bereavement intensified Mrs. Rankine's illness, but for more than two years before Mrs. Norton's death her family insisted that the widow stay in the city, that she have the comfort and companionship in constant attendance at her home. Mrs. Rankine had been for four or five years under the medical care of a specialist, Miss Spink, however, did not always accompany Mrs. Rankine on her motor car trips. The important consideration in the eyes of the family was that the patient should not be left alone. And the faithful chauffeur, if his charge should have become ill while driving, was regarded as quite trustworthy and competent.

On Friday afternoon Clouting, as usual, had driven Mrs. Rankine from the rooms of the association up through the park and then back to her apartment hotel at the close of her day's charitable work. She alighted and started into the hotel, but had hardly passed the threshold when she returned to the car and directed her chauffeur to drive her to Second avenue and Fifty-ninth street. She gave this order as though it had been an afterthought, and Clouting says it was her only unusual departure from the close of her day's work. She alighted and started into the hotel, but had hardly passed the threshold when she returned to the car and directed her chauffeur to drive her to Second avenue and Fifty-ninth street. She gave this order as though it had been an afterthought, and Clouting says it was her only unusual departure from the close of her day's work. She alighted and started into the hotel, but had hardly passed the threshold when she returned to the car and directed her chauffeur to drive her to Second avenue and Fifty-ninth street. She gave this order as though it had been an afterthought, and Clouting says it was her only unusual departure from the close of her day's work.

### Intended to Watch Her.

Clouting knew Sixtieth street to be a one way thoroughfare for westbound traffic only, so he swung his car down Fifth avenue to Fifty-ninth street and drove thence to the bridge approach. When Mrs. Rankine left the car and told him he might return home, as she intended to walk back, the chauffeur had no intention of doing so. He had formed the habit of watching her for some sign of illness when she was in his charge. A traffic policeman compelled him to execute a loop of about 30 feet into Second avenue before he could turn his car around. When he had turned it Mrs. Rankine, he says, had disappeared. He drove on and down the avenue, seeking her, but finally gave it up, concluding she must have started to walk home.

Clouting told Mr. Nye and Mrs. Mullaly less than two minutes intervened between the moment Mrs. Rankine alighted from the car, dismissing him, and his return to that spot to find her vanished. He finally took his car back to the Elk garage, in East Seventy-fifth street, where it is kept, and from there called up Miss Spink to ask whether Mrs. Rankine had arrived home. Learning she had not he told his whole story, and Miss Spink telephoned Mr. Norton, at his home in Pelham Manor. Her brother immediately gave the police a "confidential alarm," and they went to work Friday night.

Twelve detectives at noon yesterday finished an exhaustive search of the buildings between the East River and Third avenue and Fifty-sixth and Sixty-fourth streets, questioning hundreds of persons in an effort to get some thread of a clue. They were under the orders of Police Lieut. John McMahon. The densely populated Italian quarter between Sixty-third and Sixtieth streets was combed out with particular care, but with negative results only. The police, too, have examined every foot of the river bank and even the shores of Blackwell's and the other East River islands on the chance of their search yielding a clue of clothing or purchase a more conclusive and more gruesome find. But they have found nothing at all tending to dispel the mystery. Relatives said that while they would not describe Mrs. Rankine as habitually morose or morbid her manner of late

## \$6,000,000,000 Is Value Put on Manhattan Isle

THE 1921 vest pocket official directory of the city was published yesterday by Peter J. Brady, supervisor of the City Record, and is the most comprehensive volume of the sort brought forth so far.

It starts with a brief history of the city, reciting that Peter Minuet paid \$24 for the Island of Manhattan. A few pages further on Finance Department figures are quoted to show the assessed valuation of the same property to-day is \$6,000,000,000. The budget and tax rate needed to run the city are also shown. Included also are the names, addresses, telephone numbers, terms, salaries and virtually all the information one could reasonably ask about every city, county, State and Federal official whose functions touch the life of this city.

## CUBAN FACTION ASKS U. S. INTERVENTION

Liberals Act in Interest of  
Jose Gomez.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Formal appeal for the establishment by the United States of a temporary provisional government in Cuba to supervise new general elections there was made to the State Department to-day by Dr. Rafael Angulo, chairman of the committee of Liberals in the interest of Jose Miguel Gomez, defeated Liberal candidate for the Presidency of Cuba. The appeal asked that the provisional government be headed either by a Cuban or an American as governor-general. Department officials assured Dr. Angulo that the appeal would be taken under consideration.

During the day Gen. Gomez was presented to President Harding at the White House.

## WALLACE GOING TO COBLENZ.

COBLENZ, April 5.—Hugh C. Wallace, American Ambassador to France, will arrive in Coblenz to-morrow for a visit to the American army of occupation.

## FASCISTI AND CROATS IN CLASH NEAR POLA

Italian Troops Aid Nationalists

When 14 Are Attacked by  
Band of 300.

TRIESTE, April 5.—Several persons are reported to have been killed and about a hundred wounded in a clash Monday between Croats and Italian Fascisti, or Extreme Nationalists, who were aided by Italian troops, in the village of Carnizza, near Pola.

Fourteen of the Fascisti were attacked by 300 Croats, led by an alleged Croatian propagandist named Cilega. A battle ensued during which twenty carabinieri went to the assistance of the Fascisti. Meanwhile the Croats also were reinforced. The Italian troops swept the surrounding country with machine gun fire. The Italian forces are now masters of the situation, reinforcements having been sent to Carnizza by a torpedo boat.

BOLOGNA, April 5.—The declaration that the Fascisti, or Extreme Nationalists, must participate in the general elections to prevent "worn out men" like former Premier Salandra, Sonnino, Orlando and Nitti from returning to power was made by Prof. Benito Mussolini in his address Sunday to the 20,000 Fascisti who came here from all the provinces of Italy. In the same way they must see to it that "power passes spontaneously from Giolitti to D'Annunzio," he declared.

GENOVA, April 5.—The police to-day arrested at Pegli, near here, a Russian who, from his connection with the revolutionary Government in Odessa, is said to be known as "the executioner of Odessa." The Russian, with others of his countrymen, was arrested because of his alleged connection with the recent uprising in Tuscany.

TURNI, Italy, April 4.—The situation created by the dismissal of workmen in the F. I. A. T. works is becoming extremely acute. The Prefect of Turin has endeavored to mediate, but without success, the representatives of the workmen desiring first to consult the members of the union. The situation is rendered more tense by the fear that it might lead to renewed occupation of the works by the men.

The problem of the F. I. A. T. plant is similar to that of other establishments in the disposal of superfluous workmen since war orders ceased. In 1915 Turin had 80,000 workmen and in 1918 there were 225,000.



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## Men's Suits for Spring

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At \$55 to \$78

HERRINGBONE CLOTHS, split basket weaves, pin checks, and striped effects that were impossible to obtain during the past few years but which so many New York men will welcome today! Every coloring and every fabric you desire will be found in our assortments — accompanied by that high standard of needlework which has long placed SAKS suits for men foremost in America.

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59.50

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